



California Department of Insurance
Insurance Commissioner, Steve Poizner

CONTACT: Fran Clader, CHP Media Relations
CONTACT: Jennifer Kerns, California Department of Insurance
CONTACT: Debbie Mesloh, San Francisco District Attorney

(916) 657-7202
(916) 492-3566
(415) 553-1596

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 25, 2007

07-01

Task Force to Probe Allegations Involving Former SCIF Employees

Today, the California Highway Patrol, California Department of Insurance, and San Francisco District Attorney's Office jointly announced the formation of a task force to investigate allegations of potential misconduct by former employees of the State Compensation Insurance Fund.

The Task Force is a cooperative effort between the California Highway Patrol, the Department of Insurance, and the San Francisco District Attorney's Office.

Since April 2007, the Department of Insurance, which has regulatory oversight of State Compensation Insurance Fund, has been conducting an exhaustive top to bottom review of the organization.

The Department of Insurance will continue, independently of the task force, to perform its regulatory audit and investigation of State Fund. The findings of this independent examination will be released this fall.

Because the State Compensation Insurance Fund Headquarters is located in San Francisco, the San Francisco District Attorney's office was approached and agreed to be an integral part of the Task Force.

In May 2007, State Compensation Insurance Fund provided information from its internal investigation, which raised concerns of potential improprieties of former employees.

At this time, the California Highway Patrol said, the State Compensation Insurance Fund has been cooperating fully with investigators.

To protect the integrity and confidentiality of the criminal investigation, agencies involved in the task force will not comment on any matters related to the criminal investigation until its completion.

The task force has established a confidential toll free tip line (877) 620-2345 for individuals seeking to report information. This toll free number is not for insurance complaints, which are handled by the Department of Insurance Consumer Hotline at (800) 927-HELP.

###